

Appl. No.: 10/524,710

Amdt. Dated April 21, 2006

Response to Office Action Mailed January 24, 2006

REMARKS:

Applicant appreciates the time and care the examiner has taken in examining the application. Applicant traverses and requests reconsideration of the rejection of the claims, and states the following in support.

It is submitted that the objection to the abstract has been obviated by amendment, as set forth above. The abstract also has been amended to comply with the applicable word limit.

In the amendments above, independent claim 1 has been amended, dependent claim 2 has been cancelled, and dependent claims 3-4 have been amended to correspond to the changes in claim 1. With respect to the rejections, it is noted that independent claim 1, as amended, recites that the first projecting parts are disposed to be in contact with each corner between the crown and each of the leg portions for pressing the pair of leg portions perpendicularly, and that the second projecting parts provided on the blade edge in the vicinity of the first projecting parts are configured to be in contact with the crown in vicinity of the pair of leg portions. Each of the second projecting parts has a corner portion which engages with the crown and is configured to prevent the corners of the leg portions from slipping toward the central side of the crown.

It is respectfully submitted that neither of the cited references, and none of the art of record, discloses or renders obvious the specific features of amended claim 1 as described above.

Given that the amended claims clearly are not rendered unpatentable by the cited references, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections under Section 102(b) should now be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for prompt allowance and that all of the objections, rejections and requirements raised in the Office action have been met. Early, favorable treatment of this application is requested.

The examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned with any questions or comments so that efforts may be made to resolve any remaining issues.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees, or credit any overpayment, associated with this communication, including fees for any necessary extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) for filing this communication, which extension is hereby requested, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305 of Chapman and Cutler LLP.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Robert J Schneider, Reg. No. 27,383

Date: April 21, 2006
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